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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 20043

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GEORG BLASCHKE

Serial No. 10/064,327

Filed: July 2, 2002

For: Twist-Grip Bicycle Shifter

Group Art Unit 3682

Examiner: Chong Hwa Kim

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300),  
on

9/20/05  
DateLisa Wunderlich  
Typed Name  
Signature

## DECLARATION

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Georg Blaschke declares that:

1. I am the inventor of the pending claims 1, 2 and 4-7 of the above-identified patent application.

2. Prior to April 13, 2001, I filled out an invention disclosure form (Exhibit A) describing a twistshifter for a bicycle including a housing element and an actuating element that are fixed together with a locking device, as described and claimed in the invention and delivered it to the Patent Department of SRAM Deutschland GmbH. Drawings of the present invention were attached to the invention disclosure form. A translation of the invention disclosure is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

3. Prior to April 13, 2001, drawings were made of the claimed invention and assigned the following part numbers 3637348345 and 364687464 as evidenced by

Page 1 of 2

Serial No. 10/064,327

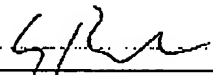
the drawings attached hereto as Exhibit C. Prior to April 13, 2001, prototypes were made of the claimed invention by SRAM's in-house prototype shop based on the drawings (Exhibit C) as evidence by a portion of SRAM's master list of prototypes made by the in-house prototype shop attached hereto as Exhibit D. Exhibit D includes the first page of the master list and the relevant page showing me as the orderer ("Auftraggeber" column) for the prototype construction of part numbers 3637348345 and 364687464.

4. As seen and/or described in Exhibits A - C, the twistshifter includes a housing element, an actuating element having a limited angle of rotation and a locking device. The locking device includes a first latching element arranged on the housing element and a second latching element having a complementary shape for engagement with the first latching element and arranged directly on the actuating element. One of the first and second latching elements have a hook contour extending along a segment of a circumference of the twistshifter near a handlebar and the other of the first and second latching elements forming a cutout having a complementary shape to the hook contour and extending through one of the housing element and the actuating element. The disengagement of the first and second latching elements permits disengagement of the actuating element from the housing element.

5. Each of the dates deleted from Exhibits A-D is prior to April 13, 2001.

6. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made upon information an belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: 20.9.05

  
Georg Blaschke